



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

January 20, 2014  
Education Centre, Board Room

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### MINUTES

**Present:** J. Angus, Committee Chair, R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, A. Everets, M. Macdonald, C. A. Sloat, T. Waldschmidt, K. Amy (Student Trustee), K. Manning (Student Trustee)

**Administration:** Director — J. Forbeck; Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, M. McDonald, A. Nesbitt, S. Sincerbox; Recording Secretary — D. Fletcher

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** C. Lefebvre, D. Werden

**Administration:** Nil.

**A – 1 Opening**

**(a) Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, J. Angus at 6:30 p.m. for the purposes of conducting the In Camera Session.

**(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

E. Dixon declared a conflict of interest for In Camera item C-1-a.

**(c) In Camera Session**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss Legal, Property and Personnel Matters at 6:30 p.m.

**Carried**



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(d) **Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, J. Angus, at 7:15 p.m.

A welcome was extended to Trustee Tom Waldschmidt, who will be representing Brant County and Norfolk County Wards 3 and 7.

Students from Redeemer College and other guests were also welcomed.

(e) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the agenda be approved as printed.

**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT Item D-1-b be approved.

**Carried**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT Item D-1-c be approved.

**Carried**

(g) **Delegation – Fairview Parents Group**

K. Donovan presented a delegation on behalf of Fairview Parents Group regarding French Immersion.

**B – 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

(a) **Single Track French Immersion Accommodation (from October 21, 2013)**



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J. Angus, on behalf of the Board was appreciative of the interest from parents and families with regards to the French Immersion Program. It provided the Board with the opportunity to explore other short-term options.

J. Gunn referred to two recommended actions in the report regarding long term accommodation and short term accommodation. Board administration has secured agreement in principle to lease the former St. Bernard school from the separate school board to use as a holding school. Senior administration will proceed to develop a lease agreement with the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board (BHNCDSB) for the use of the school in the short term. The school is near the Ecole Fairview neighbourhood and can accommodate six classes (150 students) with appropriate library and gym spaces. The school would require minimal work to make it ready to accept students from Ecole Fairview.

R. Collver was pleased for the report and thanked senior administration for reviewing other options to provide a fair solution. Comments and concerns from the Fairview community were appreciated and acknowledged by the Board.

D. Dean was pleased to support both recommendations and hopes that the options provided meet the concerns of parents and families. He suggested that following the approval from the Ministry and development of Coronation, we will continue to review the enrolment patterns in the French Immersion program. A secondary school location may need to be considered due to the expansion issue surrounding continued growth in the program. He also expressed concern about availability of quality personnel to teach the program across the province. Projected enrolment show capacity will soon be reached if the existing trends continue.

He addressed students living in the Burford area who attend Dufferin and Fairview that have younger siblings and would like to see those siblings (approximately 9 to Fairview and 9 to Dufferin) attend the same school as their older siblings.

A. Everets was supportive of the two motions and voiced a concern about D. Dean's suggestion, and that at some point grandfathering of students will need to come to an end. Administration should be cautious and be clear to parents about the French Immersion Program in Burford.

C.A. Sloat pointed out that we are fortunate in our Board compared to other boards that we are in a stable position in that we have been able to provide the French Immersion Programs in the same locations. She is pleased that our Board is still able to provide this program to junior kindergarten and senior kindergarten students.



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J. Angus was pleased with this report and acknowledged senior administration for their work on providing options.

In response to J. Angus, J. Gunn explained that initial conversations with BHNCD SB indicate that the lease would be amendable, however costs should not exceed what we receive for accommodation grants for those students from the Ministry.

J. Angus appreciated the option available to us due to the strong relationship and partnership we have with the coterminous board. She is pleased that the solution is feasible since families had voiced the fact that Victoria School would not be acceptable for a number of different reasons.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the redevelopment and expansion of the Coronation School site subject to Ministry of Education approval of capital funding.

**Carried**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the short term accommodation plan of leasing the St. Bernard school site to be operated as a twinned school with Ecole Fairview until the Coronation school site is developed subject to Ministry of Education approval of capital funding.

**Carried**

C.A. Sloat referred to a delegation presented by the Fairview Parent Council on November 28, 2013 and will be pleased to provide a response once the motions are ratified next week at the Board meeting.

### C – 1 Director's Report

The Director highlighted:

- All secondary schools will write final exams from January 23 to January 29, 2014
- Director's Annual Report to the Community 2012-13 is now available online
- The Teacher Learning and Leadership Program (TLLP) Project is an annual project-based professional learning opportunity for experienced classroom teachers. The program funds proposals from the classroom teachers who seek a peer leadership role in curriculum, instructional practice or supporting other teachers TLP program.



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Jennifer Baxter from Hagersville Elementary School and Elizabeth Moruzi from North Park Collegiate were successful in receiving TLLP project funding

- Recognition was given to the payroll staff in Business Services for their efforts to implement and introduce a new system to staff members in the Board
- Received Ministry approvals to hire an aboriginal mentor, and funding for teachers taking FNMI AQ courses and a partnership project with DSBN
- Board vehicles have been wrapped with advertisements to promote the kindergarten program
- Promotional video for Kindergarten registration was showed to the trustees

### School Visits – B. Blancher

B. Blancher provided an update on her visit to Full-Day Kindergarten Classrooms.

B. Blancher and D. Carson, teacher consultant, Early Years visited 36 schools and 85 classrooms. Key pieces that were highlighted include: intentionality, self-regulation, vision of the child as competent and capable, the natural environment, and students co-creating the environment.

In response to A. Everets, B. Blancher explained that the use of the classroom as a third teacher and using a natural environment is a provincial initiative, and that 90% of the 85 classrooms visited have moved in this new direction. Childcare partners have also expressed an interest in the new setting.

In response to D. Dean, B. Blancher clarified that many books remain in the Kindergarten classes, however it is the intentional books that will be displayed for the students.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of January 20, 2014 as information.

**Carried**

### D – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

#### (a) Schedule of Set Pre-Budget Consultation Meetings



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The meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. and trustees are encouraged to submit items they wish to include for discussion in advance so staff can prepare appropriately.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board set the dates for Pre- Budget Consultation

Meetings as follows:

1. February 4, 2014

2. February 18, 2014

**Carried**

### D – 2 New Business – Information Items

#### (a) Category III Trips

J. Forbeck referred to trips as outlined in the report. The curricular trips are very closely linked to the curriculum expectations.

In response to C.A. Sloat, J. Forbeck explained that few schools will start fundraising as permission forms are coming through. Often trips that involve ferries or water will require more time to process. Superintendents A. Nesbitt and D. Abbey and their administrative assistants are working hard to ensure approval processes have been completed first.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Category III Trips Report as information.

**Carried**

#### (b) Enrolment versus Capacity by School Report

J. Gunn highlighted the annual report which shows enrolment as of Oct 31, 2013 versus capacity in the buildings. Elementary schools show that enrolment is up due to the implementation of Full Day Kindergarten. The school capacity shows a net increase of 15 elementary pupil spaces while secondary schools show a decrease of 144.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle



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THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report Enrolment vs Capacity as information.

**Carried**

(c) **Superintendent Performance Appraisal**

J. Forbeck referred to legislation around superintendent performance appraisals and outlined changes as compared to what the Board now follows.

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the draft Ministry Supervisory Officer Performance Appraisal Process as information.

**Carried**

E – 1 **Other Business**

(a) **OPSBA Report**

This item was deferred until the Regular Board Meeting on January 27, 2014.

F – 1 **Correspondence**

(a) **City of Brantford**

(b) **Ontario Public School Board Association**

G – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

**Carried**

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Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Chair, Jane Angus